

Context & Methodology

More than 4.3 million refugees have fled Ukraine since the escalation of conflict on 24 February 2022. From among them, 662,751 have been displaced to Romania (UNHCR). The number of people crossing has fluctuated in the days since the escalation, and it can be anticipated that it will vary with the intensity and geography of conflict in the next days or weeks.

To understand the drivers of displacement and intentions of refugees, 821 interviews were conducted with people crossing from Ukraine into Romania. Interviews were conducted at every border checkpoint and certain reception centers, and began on 28 February. This factsheet includes cumulative responses from 28 February to 06 April. Following this data collection, select interviewees will be contacted for long-form qualitative interviews to gain a longitudinal understanding of their experience of displacement.

Interviewees were selected purposively to gain a broader understanding of experiences and intentions, and results should therefore be considered indicative rather than representative.

The data collection tool was modified after the deployment and therefore the sample size differs for certain questions; for some of them, the sample size is provided.

Demography

Gender of the respondent

Female	667	83%
Male	132	17%



Nationality of the respondent

Ukrainian	93%
Russian	2%
Other	5%



Respondents reporting travelling with the following population groups¹

Children 0-5 years of age	33%
Children 6-18 years of age	59%
Elderly (65+ years of age)	10%
Pregnant and lactating women	2%
Persons with disabilities	5%
Women traveling alone	15%

Number of people traveling with respondents

Alone	11%
1 - 4	75%
5 +	14%



Most reported pre-displacement employment status of respondents²

Wholesale and retail trade	12%
Education (including students and teachers)	12%
IT (computer technology)	5%
Retired	5%

Origins and Arrivals

98% of respondents reported holding a passport

Reasons for leaving the area of origin^{1, 3}

Active conflict (incl. troops) in the settlement	61%
Damage in or near the settlement	30%
Worry that active fightings will come to the settlement	22%

Most frequent regions (oblasts) of origin²

Kyiv	211	26%
Odessa	134	16%
Kharkiv	110	13%
Mykolaiv	107	13%

Reason for selecting border crossing²

Most direct route to border	45%
Most convenient for future plans	19%
Shorter queues at the crossing	8%
Other reasons	14%

Most frequently reported modalities of border crossing²

Car	299	37%
Foot	272	34%
Bus	118	15%
Train	33	4%

Intentions

Top 3 intended destination countries of respondents

Romania	19%
Germany	18%
Bulgaria	6%

49% of respondents intending to stay in Romania plan to stay in the country as long as conflict in Ukraine continues

23% of respondents intending to stay in Romania don't know how long they will stay in the country

Reported drivers for selection of destination country by respondents²

Family/friends in location of arrival	41%
Meeting displaced family or friends	15%
Job or livelihood opportunities there	8%
Advised by family or friends	6%

Reported accommodation type in destination country by respondents²

Staying with family/friend	37%
Don't know where to stay	22%
Collective centre	12%
Rented accommodation	8%

¹Multiple responses permitted. The sum might exceed 100%. ² Top four choices indicated by respondents. ³ Top three choices indicated by respondents.